

P R O C E E D I N G S

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

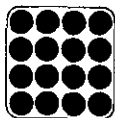
BOARD MEETING

RAMADA INN
AZALEA AND CAMELLIA ROOMS
ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA

Friday, June 19, 1970

Reported by:

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P R O C E E D I N G S

Friday Morning

June 19, 1970

The Board Meeting of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission convened at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., on Friday, June 19, 1970, at the Ramada Inn, Azalea and Camellia Rooms, Alexandria, Louisiana, Mr. J. G. Jones, Chairman, presiding

THERE WERE PRESENT:

Mr. J. G. Jones, Chairman

Mr. H. C. Wright, Vice- Chairman

Mr. C. M. Hoffpauer

Mr. C. A. Guidry

Mr. J. E. Kyle, Jr.

Mr. Hobson Norris

Mr. J. L. Winfree

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A G E N D A

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Meetings of the Commission which were held on

August 19, 1969

December 16, 1969

January 23, 1970

February 24, 1970



MR. YANCEY:

2. Consideration of the Federal Framework (6)
on the September Teal Season.

3. Consideration of adopting resolution
objecting to any action on the part of the U.S. Bureau
of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife that will result
interrupting the migration of blue and snow geese into
Louisiana each fall. (13)

DR. ST. AMANT:

4. Fill Permit for PPG Industries from
Calcasieu River. (26)

DR. FORD:

5. Consideration of the tabulation of bids
received on the proposed construction of a dormitory
building, freshwater tank and boat hoist on Grand Terre
Island, Jefferson Parish. (30)

6. Consideration of opening the shrimp
season in Breton Sound if determined to be feasible (35)

MR. HERRING:

7. Consideration of the issuance of a guy
line permit on the Russell Sage Wildlife Management
Area. (43)

8. Consideration of approval for securing a



contract on timber marking on the Bodcau Wildlife Management Area. (45)

DR. ST. AMANT:

9. Resolution as to Commission's concern over position of Bureau of Commercial Fisheries transfer to Department of Commerce. (22)

OTHER BUSINESS:

Acceptance of 80 acres from Mr. Hob Norris of his N 1/2 of NE 1/4 of Sec 26 T18N R5E, Quachita Parish. (23)

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CHAIRMAN JONES: The meeting will now come to order.

The first meeting that we will have will be the regular monthly meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. We have nine items on the agenda. After that, if any of you have any other business for the Commission that you wish to take up, we will take it up at that time, other than season and bag limits.

After we complete the regular meeting, we will then take a little break and then we will begin a second session, which will be devoted exclusively to



hearing from anyone who wants to be heard regarding seasons and bag limits. We normally operate under the framework that we will confine ourselves to seasons and bag limits during this second session, so that we may proceed with order. So, if you have some business that you want to bring to the attention of the Commission or want to discuss with us, other than seasons and bag limits, please do so at this meeting that we are going to have now. We will have to limit our second meeting to the question of seasons and bag limits.

Additionally, tomorrow, beginning at 9:00 o'clock -- unless there is some objection, we will begin at 9 o'clock -- we will have another meeting at which time we will hear from anyone who wants to be heard concerning the question of seasons and bag limits. Again, tomorrow we will have to confine the meeting to that subject so that we can proceed with some order.

Now we will proceed with the business of the agenda.

Item Number 1 is the approval of the Minutes of the meetings of the Commission which were held on August 19, 1969; December 16, 1969; January 23, 1970; February 24, 1970.



Let me make a comment here that the reason that some of these Minutes are pretty far back is that we now record these Minutes verbatim and, of course, some of these Minutes are extensive meetings and it takes some time to transcribe the Minutes.

I think that all of the Board members have been furnished with the Minutes on these meetings. What is your pleasure?

MR. J. E. KYLE, JR.: I so move.

MR. H. C. WRIGHT: I second.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been moved by Mr. Kyle and seconded by Mr. Wright that we approve the Minutes.

Is there any objection?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Hearing none, so ordered.

Item Number 2, Mr. Yancey.

MR. YANCEY: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, ladies and gentlemen.

The first item that we have on the agenda pertains to the setting of the dates of the September Teal Hunting Season for 1970.

Back in January, the Commission adopted a Resolution requesting that the Bureau of Sport Fisheries



and Wildlife again allow a September teal hunting season for Louisiana.

This was granted. We received a letter about three weeks ago advising that the season would be allowed for a period of nine days, and that the framework would be from September 1 to September 20th -- that we would have the authority to set that nine-day season within that framework. Of course, this would have meant that our season would have started on September 12, which would have possibly meant that the season would begin before the teal arrived. So, we forwarded a letter back to Washington and asked them that they extend the framework on to September 20th. We got some help out of the Congressmen up there and also Dr. Glascoe gave us a hand on it, and we received a letter yesterday or the day before advising us that the extension had been granted.

So, we have the authority to set this nine-day hunt at any time during the month of September. This will be the fifth September teal season that we will have, and it is expected that if we would set this nine-day hunt to embrace the last two week-ends in September, that we would probably take about 180,000 or



so blue and green-winged teal, as compared to 120,000 that we took last year when the season started a week earlier in September.

This hunt has provided a great amount of hunting opportunity for the people who hunt down in the coastal areas, and the rice fields, and out at Catahoula Lake. Of course, it has not meant a great deal to the people who hunt the woodland areas of the State because teal are marsh and open-water birds and they do not frequent that type of habitat.

So, we would propose at this time and recommend that the season be established to begin on Saturday, September 19, and run through Sunday, September 27, 1970. The shooting hours will be from sunrise to sunset. The daily bag limit will be four blue or green-winged teal, with a possession limit of eight. And, of course, no permit will be required, on the part -- special permit will be required on the part of the hunters as we had for three or four years. The hunters would, of course, have to have a duck stamp if they have reached an age of 16 and a State license.

Now, we will have certain stipulations that



we will have to comply with in accepting this season. We will have to have a good enforcement program, which we will have anyway. We will have to conduct the Hunter Education Program to help the hunter with duck identification. There will be some other ducks on hand during that hunt. And, of course, we certainly want to publicize the fact that we hope that all hunters will abide strictly by the regulations. We have had some violations during these hunts in the past, as we have had during the regular duck season, and we would certainly recommend to all that we have a very clean hunt and that everybody abide by the regulations and that will greatly strengthen our possibilities of continuing this season in the future.

So, at this time, we would recommend that we accept the season and begin to hunt on September 19, 1970 and run it through September 27, 1970.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: A question, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Mr. Winfree.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Mr. Yancey, in your opinion, by the granting of this framework -- that is, for a teal season in Louisiana -- does that in any way affect our regular duck season relative to bag limits or



time or framework?

MR. YANCEY: No, absolutely not. This September season in no way has any bearing on the number of hunting days nor the bag limits allowed during the regular duck season.

The hunt is scheduled in September because the blue-winged teal are moving through the Flyway at that time and, of course, as everyone knows they winter down in Central and South America. So, the only opportunity that we have of taking a few of these birds is during the migration season, inasmuch as they do not winter here in large numbers. This hunt is geared strictly to blue-winged teal and it has absolutely no bearing whatsoever on the number of hunting days nor the bag limits established during the regular duck season.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Another question, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Mr. Winfree.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Mr. Yancey, do any other States have this teal season, or do any of the other States have these blue-winged teal that pass through here on their way to the Yucatan?

MR. YANCEY: This hunt is going to be offered



to all States in the Mississippi or the Central Flyway. Last year I believe that all but about four States in both Flyways expected the teal season.

Now, the Fall flight of blue-wings normally makes up about ten or twelve million birds. These birds are produced largely up in the prairie Provinces of Western Canada and migrate down through the Central and Mississippi Flyway and winter on down south in Central and South America.

So, the other States do have an opportunity to take teal. However, Louisiana has been the principal beneficiary of these hunts. We have taken about 40% -- in most of the four seasons that we have had in the past, we have taken about 40% of all of the teal taken in both Flyways and in Louisiana. This is mainly due to the fact that the teal do stop for a week or two down in the Coastal marshes before going on through. So, our hunt is timed to take advantage of the availability of those birds in the marsh.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: An observation, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Go ahead.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Primarily my reason for



asking these questions -- I have received numerous letters and I have given Mr. Yancey one -- people in the Baton Rouge area and in the Coastal areas have indicated to me that Louisiana was being penalized by taking this teal season and was being penalized on the regular bag limit of the later duck season. I indicated to them that that was not the case and that is the reason that I wanted Mr. Yancey, for the record, to disclose just what he has, and he has certainly answered my questions.

So, as a result of that, Mr. Chairman, I would move that September 19th through the 27th would be the date set for the blue-winged teal season in Louisiana.

R E S O L U T I O N

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby establish the 1970 Teal Season to begin on Saturday, September 19, 1970, and extend through Sunday, September 27, 1970, and does hereby adopt all Federal Regulations governing this nine-day season.

CHAIRMAN JONES: There has been a motion by Mr. Winfree. Is there a second?



MR. HOBSON NORRIS: I second.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been seconded by Mr. Norris. Is there any further discussion?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Is there any objections?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Hearing none, so ordered.

I might add, Jim, I believe that we have been penalized, but that is not the reason.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: I didn't hear that, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN JONES: I think that we have been penalized in the regular season, but it is not because we have a teal season.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: That I will agree also, but I just wanted to be sure of this teal season.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Mr. Yancey.

MR. YANCEY: Back in 1961 or 1962 we had a 19-day regular duck season and a bag limit of three birds that year. We had no teal season that year at all. Last year we had a teal season and about 40 to 45 days allowed in the season with a bag limit of four. The two are not related in any shape, form or fashion.



The second item on the agenda pertains to blue and snow goose management in the Mississippi and the Central Flyway. It is proposed here that we adopt a Resolution that would object to certain management procedures that are being initiated and carried out in the Flyway at this time, as they relate to altering the distribution of these wintering flocks of birds in these two Flyways.

All of us are familiar with the fact that back in the 1930's Louisiana wintered what we think were hundreds of thousands of Canada Geese. Now, beginning in the late 30's, a network of refuges and feeding areas were established up in Illinois and Missouri, and later on in Wisconsin, which interrupted the migration of Canada Geese into their breeding grounds in the Gulf Coast marshes. This was followed by a dwindling wintering population of Canada Geese in this State.

As a matter of fact, for the past couple of years, and even though we have had closed seasons on these birds for the past five years, the wintering flock of Canada Geese in Louisiana has dropped from about 8,000 down to about 2,000. So, we are practically out of the Canada Goose business as a result of the fact



that they are being held in the Central and upper portions of the Mississippi Flyway.

Now, at this time, similar efforts are being made with regards to short-stopping the blue and snow geese in the Flyway. Unfortunately, these efforts are showing some promise of being successful. During the last two or three years, the migrations of blue and snow geese have been interrupted and delayed. Last winter about 13% of the population wintered up in, primarily, Missouri, Iowa, and in the Dakotas. So, we are fearful that our migration of blue and snow geese into Louisiana will be dried up just as the migration of Canada Geese was terminated by the results of these efforts up the Flyway.

To a great extent these efforts are being carried out on Federal lands and using Federal funds, and under the direction of Federal personnel. We feel that that is reprehensible that this type of activity be permitted to be carried out. So, we would propose at this time that we adopt a strong Resolution objecting to the use of any Federal funds, lands, or personnel for purposes of interrupting or delaying the Fall migration of blue and snow geese into Louisiana. We



strongly feel that the same thing can happen in the case of the blue and snow geese that has happened in the case of the Canada Geese.

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The Gulf Coast region of South Louisiana annually winters approximately 500,000 blue and snow geese, thereby constituting an important natural resource of aesthetic and recreational value to the people of the State, and

WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of Canada geese formerly wintered in Louisiana, but no longer do so since they have been "short-stopped" in the upper regions of the Mississippi Flyway, as a result of the installation of a chain of refuges and artificial feeding programs, and

WHEREAS, Federal funds and lands have and are now being used by personnel of the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife in States north of the Gulf Coast, for purposes of interrupting and delaying the Fall migration of blue and snow geese to



Louisiana which has taken place for thousands of years, and

WHEREAS, this practice may eliminate the traditional Fall flight of these birds to the Gulf Coast, as it did in the case of the Canada geese, and thereby result in having the blue and snow geese heavily concentrated on small refuge areas in the Central and Northern States of the Mississippi Flyway, under conditions possibly adverse to their welfare, particularly in regard to heavy gunning pressure, low temperatures, disease and parasites, and

WHEREAS, a vast chain of refuges occupying some 500,000 acres of Gulf Coast marshlands in Louisiana have been established as sanctuaries by Federal as well as State and private interests, the value of which could be greatly reduced if the blue and snow geese are held in regions north of Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, these coastal refuges coupled with several million acres of privately-owned marsh and agriculture lands have and will



continue to provide ample high-quality habitat that will satisfactorily fulfill the future needs of these birds, and

WHEREAS, the use of public funds at the Federal level for purposes of artificially interrupting the traditional migration of blue and snow geese to Louisiana is a matter of extreme concern to the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and the sportsmen of this State,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby strenuously object to any "short-stopping" of blue and snow geese, and furthermore urges and requests the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife to

(1) Cease and desist from engaging in any program which may interrupt or delay the orderly and traditional Fall migration of blue and snow geese southward to the Gulf Coast, and

(2) Instruct its personnel to specifically discourage rather than



encourage any and all activity designed to "short-stop" blue and snow geese, and

(3) Utilize any funds that it may have on hand for redistributing geese in the Mississippi Flyway for purposes of restoring the original migration of Canada geese to Louisiana, rather than use such funds for holding blue and snow geese north of the Gulf Coast, and

(4) Explain to the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission precisely what its future plans are in regard to manipulating the distribution of blue, snow and Canada geese as it affects this State, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, the Director of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Mississippi Game and Fish Commission, all members of the Louisiana



Congressional Delegation, and the news media.

MR. YANCEY: We have got a lot of "whereases" in this Resolution to explain what we are talking about. The meat of the Resolution, of course, lies in the BE IT RESOLVED portion. This is a four-point proposal here, and it would involve mainly that we do strenuously object to any such action being carried out by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife that would tend to encourage the delaying and interrupting of the migration of these birds to Louisiana.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Mr. Yancey, just a moment. Would you repeat the Number 3 point in the Resolution again?

MR. YANCEY: Number 3 is that they utilize any funds that they may have on hand for redistributing geese in the Mississippi Flyway for purposes of restoring the original migration of Canada geese to Louisiana, rather than use such funds for holding blue and snow geese north of the Gulf Coast.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Tell me what that means, would you, please?

MR. YANCEY: Well, at this time, they are



using funds for planting winter cover crops and other food supplies on the National Wildlife Refuge in the upper portions of this Flyway, for purposes of holding the blue and snow geese in those areas. So, we would suggest that those funds be employed -- if they have those funds available, and apparently they do, that they be used to bring the Canada geese back to Louisiana, rather than to put us out of business.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: That is what I thought you meant. I just wanted to be sure.

MR. YANCEY: Point Number 4 is that we would request that they explain precisely what their plans are in regard to manipulating the distribution of blue, snow and Canada geese in the Flyway, as it affects Louisiana. At this point they have not done so. Certainly, we feel that we are entitled to an explanation.

And, of course, finally we would suggest that copies of this Resolution be sent to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, the Director of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and the Mississippi Game and Fish Commission, and the members of our Congressional



Delgation, and also to the press.

Texas is also very, very much concerned about this activity because they have already felt the effects of what is being done on up the Flyway more than we have.

I believe, according to our surveys last winter, we had over 20,000 people that hunted these birds in the State. They do provide a lot of recreation for the hunters, and certainly I do not believe that our Coastal marshes will be nearly as attractive as they are now without these blue and snow geese. They are real scenic to have in the marshes.

Furthermore, we don't believe that it is to the advantage of the population. Now, they are distributed over several million acres of Coastal marsh and rice-lands in South Louisiana. With this "short-stopping" activity, it would be concentrated in extremely large concentrations in very limited areas on up the Flyway, which subjects them to firing-line hunting, the possibility of losses from low temperatures, the winter temperatures, and also, whenever you concentrate any wildlife population, excessively, you usually run into disease and parasite problems.



MR. J. L. WINFREE: What you are trying to say is that you could wipe out the blue and snow geese population completely.

MR. YANCEY: What I am saying is that we don't think that it is biologically advisable to carry out the plans that are now being carried out.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: How many blues and snows did we have in Louisiana last year, Mr. Yancey?

MR. YANCEY: Well, about 500,000 normally winter in Louisiana. Of course, the hunters take quite a few of them. The January inventories usually reveal about 350 to 400,000 on hand.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Richard, I think that the Canadian Government ought to be apprized of this too, because they are strictly against this "short-stopping."

MR. YANCEY: Well, Larry Swallow, who is a biologist for the Commission, made a meeting in Kansas City about two weeks ago, and at that meeting they were actually discussing the plans for portioning the kill on these birds among two or three States up there. Some of the Canadians were there and I don't think that at that meeting they took a stand one way or the other.



CHAIRMAN JONES: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. J. E. KYLE, JR.: I so move.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been moved by Mr. Kyle. Is there a second?

MR. H. C. WRIGHT: I second.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been seconded by Mr. Wright. Is there any further discussion?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Is there any objection?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Hearing none, so ordered.

Thank you, Mr. Yancey.

MR. YANCEY: We have one other item. Mr. Hobson Norris owns 80 acres of land in the Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area. He has offered to donate his interest in this land to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission for purposes of incorporating that into the Game Management Area.

There is a dual assessment on this land. However, this offer is certainly a tremendous thing for the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and everybody would certainly owe Mr. Norris a debt of gratitude if



this land can be -- the title can be cleared and it can be made a part of this Russell Sage Game Management Area, which is located just east of Monroe.

CHAIRMAN JONES: I feel, on behalf of the Commission, that it is a very highly commendable act on the part of Mr. Norris, especially since the State in the past has spent millions of dollars acquiring land, and here we have a man who is willing to give to the people his interest that he has in the land.

The Commission certainly owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Norris and we certainly appreciate his granting this land to the Commission.

What is your pleasure pertaining to the donation, gentlemen?

MR. H. C. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, I move that we accept this offer.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Is there a second?

MR. J. E. KYLE, JR.: I second.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been moved by Mr. Wright and seconded by Mr. Kyle that we accept the donation from Mr. Norris.

Is there any further discussion?

MR. J. L. WINFREE: I would like to make one



suggestion to Mr. Wright's motion, and that is that our legal staff be directed to immediately start the preparation of the necessary papers for this acquisition from Mr. Norris. I would further like for Mr. Wright to include in his motion that this Commission prepare a Resolution of thanks to Mr. Norris for his donation of this tract of land.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Mr. Wright, would you accept those amendments?

MR. H. C. WRIGHT: I certainly will.

CHAIRMAN JONES: With the motion as now amended, is there any further discussion?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Is there any objection?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Hearing none, so ordered.

Thank you, Mr. Norris.

Dr. St. Amant, and while he is coming to the microphone, let me say that one of the former members of the Commission is in the audience, Jimmy Thompson. Would you please stand, Jimmy? It is nice to have you here.

(APPLAUSE)



MR. J. L. WINFREE: May I say just one word here?

CHAIRMAN JONES: Yes.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Jimmy Thompson told me that actually since this land lay within that refuge up there, that he was trying to get Hob to donate it to him so that he could fence it and have a nice camp in the middle of this refuge.

(LAUGHTER)

DR. ST. AMANT: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission.

I have two items and they are different places on the agenda, but perhaps I could take them both up here.

The first is a request by the PPG Industries, Inc., Industrial Chemical Division, Lake Charles, Louisiana, for a permit to build a wharf and to dredge an estimated 190,000 yards of fill material from the right descending bank of the Calcasieu River, in the Coon Island area. This request is for development and is on the land that is owned by this company. It has been examined by the Louisiana Stream Control Commission and the construction has been approved.



In view of this, and since the permit request is in order, I would recommend that we grant this permit.

CHAIRMAN JONES: You have heard the recommendation, what is your pleasure?

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Dr. St. Amant, what royalties does the State receive from this fill?

DR. ST. AMANT: We get 2-1/2 cents a yard on fill material.

CHAIRMAN JONES: What is your pleasure?

MR. J. E. KYLE, JR.: I so move.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been moved by Mr. Kyle.

MR. HOBSON NORRIS: I second the motion.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been seconded by Mr. Norris.

Is there any other discussion?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Hearing none, so ordered. Incidentally, PPG Industries is the industry that is made available to a group from Lake Charles for surplus concrete blocks, and they are going to build a reef with them.

DR. ST. AMANT: The second item is a suggestion



to the Commission that we prepare a Resolution directed to our Congressional Delegation, and to the Department of Commerce and any other Federal agencies which deal with the recent transfer of considerable numbers of agencies and sub-agencies from the Department of Interior to the Department of Commerce.

The principal concern of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at this time has to do with the fact that the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, which has since 1945, I think it is, has been a Department of the Department of Interior, and which deals with the studies, the research, and the management of our marine fisheries, and Coastal areas, from the National level. This agency has been in dire straits in recent times, even in the Department of the Interior, because its budget has been gradually reduced. This is presumably because of new economic considerations at higher levels in Government.

Now, in order to get a reorganization of agencies, one group of agencies would be placed in an administrative set-up to deal with pollution alone, and a second group dealing with the environment and the ocean would be placed in the Department of Commerce.



Why this was done is not clear, but apparently it was done abruptly and the Department of Commerce was not aware that this change would be made -- at least the information that we have indicates that this is the case.

We are a little bit concerned that perhaps the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, which is the only natural resource agency in the group, the others being the Weather Bureau, the Navy Data Buoy Program, the Naval Office of Oceanographic Data, and other types of physical and chemical oceanographia data, will somehow overshadow the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries. We think that it might be wise to direct a Resolution to Congress, to our Congressional Delegate, and to the Department of Commerce, calling to their attention that the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries is a valuable asset to the country, and that we would hope that they would continue to use it to its fullest degree and to enhance its budget as much as possible.

If the Commission desires that this Resolution be drawn up, I will prepare such a statement in the next day or two for Mr. Hoffbauer's signature, and we will see that it gets done.



CHAIRMAN JONES: You have heard the recommendation, what is your pleasure?

MR. H. C. WRIGHT: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been moved by Mr. Wright. Is there a second?

MR. J. E. KYLE, JR.: I second.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been seconded by Mr. Kyle.

Is there any further discussion?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Is there any objection?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Hearing none, so ordered. Thank you, Dr. St. Amant.

Dr. Ford.

DR. FORD: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission.

We have two items. The first is the ratification of the acceptance of Dormitory No. 2 at the Marine Laboratory.

At the recommendation of the Department of Public Works, the bid opening was deferred for one week, and was held on June 1, 1970. At our last Commission



meeting it was discussed and it was advised that we poll members of the Commission rather than call a special meeting, in order to have the contract executed prior to June 30th.

The four bids ranged in price from \$205,107.42 to a high bid of \$278,998.05.

We then made a determination that we had funds available to accept the low bid, contacted members of the Commission and they did agree to accept it. We advised the Director and then he asked that we advise Public Works.

Therefore, we would like to recommend that the Commission ratify this action, and I would like to read the Resolution.

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, bids were opened on June 1, 1970, for the construction of Dormitory #2, Fresh-water Tank and Boat Hoist at the Marine Laboratory on Grand Terre Island, and

WHEREAS, four bids were received in the following amounts:

International Lumber Industries, Inc.
Port Barre, Louisiana

\$205,107.42



Grand Isle Materials Co., Inc.
Grand Isle, Louisiana

\$225,932.95

Lane & Company, Inc.
New Orleans, Louisiana

\$272,334.15

Volunteer Construction Co., Inc.
New Orleans, Louisiana

\$278,998.05

WHEREAS, funds were determined to be available through Act #12 of the 1969 fiscal session of the Legislature, and this project had to be under contract by June 30, 1969, and

WHEREAS, these conditions were explained to five of the six members of the Commission who could be reached by telephone, and they did agree and approve of the Director accepting the low bid in order to have this contract executed within the given time limit, now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission at its regular meeting on Friday, June 19, 1970, that it does ratify the action of the Director in



awarding the contract to the lowest bidder for this work for the construction of Dormitory #2, Freshwater Tank and Boat Hoist at the Marine Laboratory, Grand Terre Island, Jefferson Parish, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director is authorized and directed to execute any and all documents necessary for the completion of this work.

DR. ST. AMANT: I would like to recommend the adoption of that Resolution.

CHAIRMAN JONES: You have heard the recommendation, what is your pleasure?

MR. HOBSON NORRIS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask what this is going to be used for.

DR. FORD: This Dormitory?

MR. HOBSON NORRIS: Yes.

DR. FORD: It has nine two-men rooms in it, Mr. Norris. It is a raised structure with an open area below it that would provide for a meeting room and a recreation room.

Our present complement of personnel at the Laboratory is approximately 24 employees at this time.



Some of these employees live over on Grand Isle and in that area.

We would visualize a future complement of approximately 32 to 35 employees at that facility. So, it will be primarily for housing for Laboratory personnel.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Is there any other questions?

MR. HOBSON NORRIS: That answers my question, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN JONES: What is your pleasure?

MR. H. C. WRIGHT: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been moved by Mr. Wright.

MR. HOBSON NORRIS: I second the motion.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been seconded by Mr. Norris.

Is there any further discussion?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Is there any objection?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Hearing none, so ordered.

DR. FORD: Mr. Chairman, the next item deals with the consideration of opening the shrimp season in



the Breton Sound area, if it is determined to be feasible. This is to anticipate what may develop, and to make provisions for handling it if it would be desirable.

Last year, in accordance with the new legislation adopted, the Commission was authorized to open two or more shrimp seasons in any part of the Coastal area, or the whole Coastal area.

The area that we have reference to is located in Breton Sound and is shown on the map that Mr. Inzingminger (?) is holding for me; based upon known landmarks that the fishermen know and can find. We had good success with this last year.

It would provide for a continuation of brown shrimp in this area, provided that there were no significant numbers of small white shrimp that would be in there.

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the situation may develop that large brown shrimp can be harvested in an area of Breton Sound without damaging the white shrimp crop based upon technical examinations of the area this year, and based upon the



experience of past years, and

WHEREAS, the catching and landing of such a crop of brown shrimp would be beneficial to the shrimp industry of Louisiana, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, at its regular meeting on June 19, 1970, in Alexandria, Louisiana, that the Director and Assistant Director are hereby authorized to extend the shrimp season after technical evaluations of the data determine that a population of large brown shrimp are available and can be harvested without damaging the white shrimp crop for the area described as follows:

Beginning at Bird Island, thence runs northwesterly to a horizontal tank battery located in the vicinity of Battledore Reef (generally northeast of Battledore Reef and east of Little Battledore Island), thence runs northeasterly to the Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet Channel at a lighted privately maintained marker known as Station "69A" and



"70A", thence southeasterly down and including the Ship Channel to lighted markers Nos. 37 and 38, thence southwesterly along the inside shoreline of Breton Island to Bird Island, which area is approximately a nine by ten mile square, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director and Assistant Director can close this area on 24-hour notice if problems develop in regard to enforcing the boundaries, or if the examination of catches indicate that under-sized white shrimp are taken in sufficient numbers, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that official notification of this action shall consist of the preparation and release of news releases to the news media.

DR. FORD: On this basis, we would like to recommend that consideration be given to authorize the Director and the Assistant Director, if the data justifies it, to open a season in there for an additional two weeks at the close of the regular shrimp season. We believe that this would provide additional landings



and would be of considerable benefit to the shrimp industry of Louisiana.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Dr. Ford, last year, as I recall, this request was made by a large group of shrimpers at that time, and the question came up as to enforcement. I believe that Colonel Neu (?) and his staff -- as you had suggested, by certain landmarks, these fishermen knew when they were within this area, and when they were outside of this area.

DR. FORD: Yes, sir.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Now, my point is this, do you have the catch that was made in this area last year? Was it a success to the shrimpers?

DR. FORD: No, sir, I do not have the exact catch data. It was suggested that they probably landed approximately, I believe it was 750,000 pounds -- this is the figure that I recall, but I am not sure about that.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: This is not restrictive, of course, to Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parish fishermen?

DR. FORD: No, sir, it is open and available to any of the fleet that would like to go in there.



MR. J. L. WINFREE: Now, you and your staff and Dr. St. Amant and his group will have the necessary information as to whether or not the white shrimp are in this area -- that is the small whites.

DR. FORD: It will have to be based on sampling and evaluation of these data. After this has been done, then a determination would be made by the Director and the Assistant Director, if you also authorize. It would prevent the necessity for calling a special meeting and possibly before your regular meeting in July.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Well, has this been a popular thing with the shrimpers?

DR. FORD: Yes, sir.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: What I am driving at, is that I do not want to be on record as saying you can do this or you cannot do this.

DR. FORD: It was well received. There were three known violations that were apprehended. There was no question about them being in the proper area. They were in the marsh area and they were fishing several miles away. They knew exactly where they were, they just didn't like getting caught.



MR. J. L. WINFREE: What you are suggesting is that this, based on biological information --

DR. FORD: Yes, sir.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: ...That this be granted again this year.

DR. FORD: Yes, sir, that the provisions be authorized and that no action would be taken unless there were good justification for warranting it.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been moved by Mr. Winfree. Is there a second?

MR. H. C. WRIGHT: I second.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been seconded by Mr. Wright.

Is there any further discussion?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Is there any objection?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Hearing none, so ordered.

DR. FORD: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Dr. Ford, if you will stay right there, we want to talk about you a little bit. Mr. Hoffpauer.



MR. C. M. HOFFPAUER: Well, every now and then people who work for us have a chance to better themselves and to go ahead in their chosen field, and Ted has elected to do that. Ted has taken a year leave of absence and is going to work with the L.S.U. Coastal Studies Institute. He is going to be the Assistant Director of the Sea Grant Program. This is quite a jump for Ted, and it is a tremendous job. Ted has done us a tremendous job here in Wild Life and Fisheries, particularly in the Oyster and Water Bottoms Division, which he has been Chief of for a good many years. I believe you started with us, Ted, in about what -- 1950?

DR. FORD: In 1954.

MR. C. M. HOFFPAUER: He has had admirable service with us and I would just like to say, Ted, that we hate to lose you. Seriously, I don't believe that you are coming back, and I don't blame you. I hope that we can find somebody to fill your shoes. That is going to be quite a job. We just wish you a lot of luck and we are really going to miss you.

DR. FORD: Mr. Director, I appreciate the kind remarks, and I do look forward to coming back,



because I have loved my work with this Commission. It has been a tremendous challenge and I look forward to continuing it.

I do believe that it will perhaps provide us with an opportunity to contribute something toward guidance of a new program at L.S.U., which is a Department of Marine Science and is about three months old.

It will be a graduate program, and I would hope that it will be arranged on a functional basis, which will be well suited for Louisiana. The challenge that they have accepted and are working toward is to become foremost in estuarine and littoral marine science. This means the marsh area and the shoreline area.

I think that one of the objectives that I would hope for is certainly that the Commission would have the opportunity to draw upon graduates of this program. I think that we need them.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Ted, I know that speaking on behalf of the Commission that money is not everything, but it appears to me that one observation that certainly is true, and true at this time since the Legislature has before it the question of additional



salaries for State employees, to me this is a perfect example of our having fine people working for us and we are just not permitted to pay them what they ought to be paid. It happens all the time with us.

We wish you the best of luck, and we certainly appreciate the services that you have rendered to the State so far. Thank you very much.

DR. FORD: I will be available if I can assist in any way.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Mr. Winfree.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: I agree with everything that you have said. I agree with everything that the Director has said. But, I must admit, that this makes me look rather silly because I told a certain Senator that we had fired Ted Ford because Ted wouldn't give him an oyster permit.

(LAUGHTER)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Mr. Herring.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

We have two items on the agenda. The first is a request from the Louisiana Power & Light Company to anchor a guy wire on a portion of our Russell Sage



Wildlife Management Area. This land is near Lampkin, Louisiana.

Mr. Chairman, this will take in about 780 square feet, which is just on the edge of our property and will have no effect, actually, on the management of it or anything, and it will provide later on a source of electricity for us, should we decide to develop this area near Monroe.

CHAIRMAN JONES: You recommend that we grant it?

MR. HERRING: I would recommend that we grant it.

CHAIRMAN JONES: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. H. C. WRIGHT: I so move.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been moved by Mr. Wright. Is there a second?

MR. HOBSON NORRIS: I second.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been seconded by Mr. Norris.

Is there any further discussion?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Is there any objection?



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Power and Light Company, West Monroe, Louisiana, has requested a right of way on Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission property, and

WHEREAS, this property is situated in Section 8, Township 18 North, Range 4 East, Ouachita Parish, Louisiana, near Lampkin, Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, the total area under right of way will be approximately 780 square feet, and

WHEREAS, the property better described as:

"Northeast quarter of Northwest quarter of Section 8, Township 18 North, Range 4 East.

Right of way herein granted is more clearly described as: Beginning at the northeast corner of the Northeast quarter of Northwest quarter of Section 8, run south a distance of 40 feet to a point; thence run west a distance of 18 feet to a point; thence run north a distance of 17 1/2 feet to a point; thence run west a distance of 12 feet to a point; thence run north a distance of 5 feet to a point; thence run east a distance of 12 feet to a point; thence run north a distance of 17 2 feet to a point; thence run east a distance of 18 feet to the Point of Beginning; said right of way being shown in RED shading on Grantee's Drawing No. A 9301 Revised, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof."

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission grant this right of way to Louisiana Power and Light Company for the purpose of anchoring a guy line.

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Hearing none, so ordered.

MR. HERRING: The next item is that we would like to ask permission from the Commission that we go out on contract to professional timber markers to mark the timber that we have for sale on our Bodcau Wildlife Management Area.

This is a money-making proposition and we feel like this would free some of our people to do their other work, and we would like to get permission from the Commission to do this.

CHAIRMAN JONES: You so recommend?

MR. HERRING: I do recommend this.

CHAIRMAN JONES: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. J. L. WINFREE: I would like to ask a question.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Mr. Winfree.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Mr. Herring, the monies that we would receive from this sale of timber, where does that money go?

MR. HERRING: It goes back on the Bodcau Wildlife Management Area.



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission is in a continuous process of marking timber for cutting on Bodcau Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS, we need our personnel for wildlife jobs other than timber marking purposes, and

WHEREAS, contracting the timber marking with professional timber marking personnel would save time, release biologists for other work and save money,

THEREFORE be it resolved, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission put all timber marking projects on Bodcau Wildlife Management Area out on contract by professional timber markers.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: In other words, we get to retain it?

MR. HERRING: Yes, sir, we get to retain it.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Then, I so move.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been moved by Mr. Winfree. Is there a second?

MR. H. C. WRIGHT: I second the motion.

CHAIRMAN JONES: It has been seconded by Mr. Wright.

Is there any further discussion?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Is there any objection?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Hearing none, so ordered.

Thank you, Mr. Herring.

One other item that is not on the agenda, but that we do want to bring up is sometime ago, as you know, the Commission has periodically in the past published a compilation of the laws and regulations affecting fishing and wildlife. As I understand, this publication is sort of out-dated now, because of the changes. There has been a desire expressed on the part of this Commission that we republish and re-edit the



publication that we have after the present session of the Legislature, and we direct the Director that this be done. Is there any discussion on this?

FROM THE FLOOR: It is all ready to go, Mr. Chairman, after the Legislature. It is all set up and ready to go. We made it cheaper than it was appropriated for.

CHAIRMAN JONES: How much?

FROM THE FLOOR: It cost about \$4300.00.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: How many copies do you propose?

FROM THE FLOOR: I don't know, Mr. Winfree.

FROM THE FLOOR: I think that it is 2000.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: And about what length of time can we expect to have this after the Legislature adjourns, and these new laws pertaining to enforcement and so forth can be incorporated?

FROM THE FLOOR: I think within three or four months at the most.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Well, apparently the matter is being handled, so we really don't need any action on the part of the Commission.

One other thing that I would like to do is



that every year we appoint a Deer Committee from members of the Commission who sit down with our biologist and other people after this meeting and go over all of the recommendations the people make, and attempt to work out some type of recommendations to the Commission.

This year I would like to appoint Mr. Wright and Mr. Norris and Mr. Winfree. I might add, for the newspaper people, we would appreciate it if they would put those three names in the paper, so that if anybody didn't get here today, or don't get here tomorrow, that they can make their recommendations to those three people.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Mr. Chairman, would you go a bit further. Would you ask that Cotton Fairchild and Jimmy Thompson and John Barton be notified of the fact that I am on this Committee?

(LAUGHTER)

CHAIRMAN JONES: I will ask the Director to write them a letter and so inform them.

Under Other Business, I think that Mr. Buckley had something.

MR. J. E. KYLE, JR.: Mr. Chairman, I would like to say something.



CHAIRMAN JONES: Yes, sir, Mr. Kyle.

MR. J. E. KYLE, JR.: I have just attended with the Director, Mr. McFadden Duffy, the Convention of the Public Relations Offices, and our magazine really stood out. In addition to the color, what they have done, they have increased the circulation, moved from black and white to color, and cut the cost two cents.

I feel that the Director and Mr. Duffy are really due a vote of thanks.

(APPLAUSE)

MR. BUCKLEY: Gentlemen, I am Charles Buckley, Past-President of the Wildlife Federation, and Treasurer of the Rapides Wildlife Association.

I would like to speak to the Commission this morning about the possibility of the reconsideration of a withdrawal from the Mississippi Flyway Council. All three organizations, the Louisiana Wildlife Federation and my local groups in Central Louisiana have requested the Commission to re-enter the Mississippi Flyway Council.

Last year I attended the meeting. Charlie Barsh (?) attended it, the President of the Catahoula Conservation Club attended, and we think that things



have changed in the Flyway Council to where Louisiana can again become an effective voice in that group, and that they badly need the leadership of Louisiana and the vote of Louisiana.

I know that Dick Yancey took a beating in that group for a large number of years, and I don't think too many of us disagreed with Dick at the time when he pulled out of the thing. But I would want to call to your attention that a number of things have changed, including that we now have Dr. Glasgow as the top head in that particular section of the U.S. Fisheries and Wildlife, where we have been walled before by the Federal Government. I think that it behooves us to try support Dr. Glasgow, who is working so hard for our position, and who is under attack constantly by these low-kill hunting States in the Mississippi Flyway Council, when he tries to help us out. We are in a sort of awkward position. We are the only State in the United States that isn't in the Council, and most people consider that Dr. Glasgow is from Louisiana.

Before we withdrew from the Mississippi Flyway Council -- some of you might remember, and I know that Dick must remember -- that we were somewhat effective



even at that time in working directly with Washington. We did get our Congressional Delegation together. We did get them to alter decisions of the Mississippi Flyway Council, even while we were in the Council.

Now, we've withdrawn from the Council and we have been quite effective in the past years by working directly with our Congressional Delegation.

What worries me considerably is that some of these States are going to notice what is going on, and they will also start organizing and they will work with their Congressional Delegation, and it has been my experience that the South sort of gets mauled whenever it becomes a question of all of the States voting on some of these things.

I would suggest this -- I realize that you are probably not ready to make any decision at this time, because there is just too much to consider on this -- what I would suggest and request would be that you set up some Committee to consider the possibility of getting back in the Mississippi Flyway Council and, hopefully, that you would invite the Federation to participate in this Committee to offer anything they might have, relating to that particular subject.



I would also request that you try to make some arrangements where you could have some official observers -- something at that Mississippi Flyway Council next year. I would love to see Dick Yancey there. I know that you don't want to send some biologist again, only to find out that they are locked out of the meeting. But, if you could make some arrangements in advance to get some of your men, and particularly Dick Yancey, to the Flyway Council meeting in an unofficial capacity, then I think that Dick can take a look around at the situation and possibly Dick might change his mind.

Another reason behind this, we've got some important things going on, as you all know, in Water Fowl, that probably can't be answered from Washington. We are going to possibly need help from the low-kill States. These are partly the result of some recommendations made by Charles Van Carlton, the Head Federal Game Agent, on changing the regulations on Water Fowl. One of the recommendations that he is making would be that in the special teal season you would be allowed to take any type of duck except the wood duck. The States could then, if they wished, further restrict that. For example, in Louisiana, we might want to restrict the



black mallard.

His logic in that is that all of the violations and all the complaints that we have had in the special teal season has been the accidental killing of some of these other ducks, such as your pintails, although the ducks taken haven't harmed the resource at all. They say that they are just teaching them bad habits. I think that you know that some of the Federal Judges haven't backed up some of the Federal Government on some of the decisions, as they say that they just can't identify ducks.

If that is the only reason that it wouldn't hurt the resource, it would be most helpful to get the Mississippi Flyway Council to recommend on any duck season, this special teal season, because even the pintails, as Dick Yancey has explained to us, are almost a separate flock and migrate from the State before the season.

The other point is this emphasis that we are going to have on morning-on-only hunting if we get liberalized hunting regulations. That is, in exchange for hunting all day they give us a longer game season, and a greater bag take. Now, that is something that is



going to be way in the future too, but I think the research on that will probably be done in the Flyway Council. There, again, I think that we need Dick Yancey's leadership very badly there.

But I would recommend to you that you do send observers and that you do form a Committee to consider the feasibility of re-entering the Council.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Thank you, Charlie.

Let me elaborate on what you have said. I think that we have done all that you are asking us to do. Last year the Commission met, and, I think that maybe you were there, at least someone from the Federation was there, and we met in New Orleans with Mr. Carlson and Mr. Buell. This was a Committee of the whole, with the members of our Commission, our staff, and the Federation people, and we had a very lengthy and fruitful discussion.

At that meeting, we arrived at some general things that I think everybody, including Mr. Carlson and Mr. Buell, were able to agree that should be done within the framework of the Flyway Council, which we felt would assist us in making a decision to rejoin.



After that meeting we sort of cinched the deal over a meal in New Orleans, at Brennan's, and they left New Orleans with the idea that they were going back and talk to their people and get back with us.

Now, that has been over a year and we have heard absolutely nothing from Mr. Carlson or Mr. Buell.

One thing did happen since that -- the only change that I know of since then is that Mr. Hawkins made a trip to Louisiana. Isn't that right, Mr. Yancey? He came here and he hadn't been here in a number of years?

MR. YANCEY: Yes, that is right.

CHAIRMAN JONES: But since that meeting we have heard nothing from these people. We have had our Committee and we didn't, as you will recall, we didn't make demands on them, we just told them what our problem was, and they agreed with us on some of the things and on some of the others they did not.

Secondly, we sent an observer -- he was not an official observer, though he was as official as could be, I guess, he was representing the Commission at the meeting -- and so really we have done all of that.

Personally, and I speak only for myself, I



could never hope to rejoin the Flyway Council officially until our people become satisfied that it is an organization that's going to do some constructive good -- that they can work within -- because, really, it's not me as a member of the Commission, that is in contact with these people. It is Dick Yancey and Swallow, Baitman, and our employees that are. If they feel that they can't work within the framework of that organization, I sure can't say, as a member of the Commission, that it is going to be our policy then that you go anyway.

So, it appears to me that the next move is on the part of Mr. Carlson and Mr. Buell.

MR. BUCKLEY: Jerry, that would be true if Carlson and Buell needed us, and I guess they did or they wouldn't have come down here.

CHAIRMAN JONES: I don't think that it was a question of anybody needing anybody. It was a meeting that really was sort of suggested, and I give your organization credit for putting the meeting together. I think that it was an excellent thing. We are not trying to say that they need us -- they don't need us, and I am not saying that. But they agreed that there were certain things that they should pursue within their



organization, and whether they pursued them or not we haven't heard from them. It appears to me that they could have given us the courtesy of returning and saying that they couldn't do any of that, and then we could make our decision.

MR. BUCKLEY: I am in agreement with you on that, Jerry, and it is unfortunate that it has broken down. But I would suggest rather than just waiting for a letter, you might say, that hasn't been answered, that this Committee be formed and, if you would, get the Federation in the Committee to state the objectives that they were looking for, then possibly we can help push the Federal Government and get a reply and get together with Dick and Swallow and see if we can't work out some rapport on under what conditions would we go back in and do something. If we just formed a Committee where we could meet and decide where we are going and what we need to do.

CHAIRMAN JONES: I will tell you right now, without hearing from anybody else on the Commission, I think that the Commission's feeling is that we are ready to sit down at any time and with anybody to talk about it, including the Federal Government, members of the



Federation, anybody, because we are not going to close our ears to anyone. If they want to meet here or anywhere, we will be more than glad to meet with them. We will meet with your group, or anybody.

MR. BUCKLEY: With your permission, then, can we set up another meeting similar to the last one? This is to reconsider this question -- a Committee Meeting?

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Mr. Chairman, may I make an observation?

CHAIRMAN JONES: Yes.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Certainly what Mr. Buckley says has a great deal of merit, but I believe that one of his requests is certainly the first one we should be acting upon, and that is this: The Federal people are rather hard to get together, but if you will recall, Mr. Buckley, and I don't know whether you were present or not, but certainly a representative of the Federation was, and this Commission told the Federation that we would be happy to meet with a Committee of the Federation at any time and air these views of yours and of ours.

So, what I am going to suggest, Mr. Chairman,



before we start talking about meeting with Federal people, and you refer to an unanswered letter in a year, and I rather agree, but if you want to start negotiations all over again, then someone has got to give. Now, I would like, and would like to suggest, that the Louisiana Wildlife Federation, and any other Louisiana conversation clubs, get together and appoint themselves a Committee and then meet with the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and let our people sit and discuss with them the ideas that they have.

I would prefer, I would personally like to see us get back together to start negotiations all over again with the Federal people. Now, whether or not we go back into the Flyway Council, that is a horse of a different color, but certainly we would all be in accord, that is the sportsmen of the State of Louisiana and this Commission, as to what we should do.

CHAIRMAN JONES: That is a good idea.

MR. BUCKLEY: Thank you. We will set up our Committee.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: That is if it is agreeable with this Commission.

I would like to suggest, Mr. Buckley, that you



get started immediately on the appointment of your Committee and be sure that all the various conservation clubs know about this, and whether it be your Board or whether it be a representative of the Commission, each club meet with us. Certainly you could set that up through the Director and I know that the Chairman would be more than agreeable to get together in a hurry on this thing.

MR. BUCKLEY: We will do that, Mr. Winfree.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Then, unless I hear some objection from the Commission, we will pursue it in that manner.

Mr. Hoffpauer, did you want to say something?

MR. C. M. HOFFPAUER: Well, the only thing that I wanted to say is that I spent something like six years as a technical representative to the Mississippi Flyway Council, and Richard spent, I don't know, ten or eleven years or something, and we talked, and when the Mississippi Flyway Council first started it was a very functional operation.

Then everybody aligned themselves with different groups, and so forth, and it wound up, say, the North against the South, if you want to put it that



way, in an eight to six vote.

It has changed since then, and I am not being facetious, that it has gone from a pretty good, say, water fowl biologically-oriented outfit, to where now it is a very, very -- almost everything is personal, and it is unbelievable the way that this does happen.

Louisiana was more or less kicked off the Blue and Snow Geese Committee. We didn't have any representation on the Blue and Snow Geese Committee. We had no representation on the Regulations Committee, which is about one of the most important Committees in the technical session. So, we were more or less non-functional. We had token assignments -- Louisiana did -- but they amounted to really nothing -- and you had this eight/six vote when you had a State, such as Kentucky, which kills a tremendous amount of birds, about 25,000, I think, a year, that they kill on opening day in one part of Cameron Parish. Then you have Tennessee, which has very few hunters, and all of these people have this one vote.

The only way that I would ever recommend or even consider going back in the Mississippi Flyway is if we could get a 100 to one vote type of representa-



tion on it. This one vote/one State business was stacked, Charlie. You just can't go out there and make any headway whatsoever.

Now, to see if it's changed any, Larry Swallow, didn't you go to the Technical Section's Spring Meeting, or what was it that you went to?

MR. LARRY SWALLOW: It was the Goose Meeting in Kansas City about three weeks ago.

MR. C. M. HOFFPAUER: Well, it's the same. What do you think? Tell us something.

(LAUGHTER)

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Well, actually, Mr. Chairman, I think what the Director and our group are doing are discussing what I would like to have our Committee discuss, but if this wants to go into the Committee as a whole I am for that, if they are ready to go, I am ready to talk.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Let us just hear Larry Swallow, and then we will stop.

MR. LARRY SWALLOW: Are you asking for recommendations as to whether we ought --

CHAIRMAN JONES: No.

MR. C. M. HOFFPAUER: Just give us a little



report on what took place and particularly on the blue and snow goose, what were the plans for them?

MR. LARRY SWALLOW: Well, I made no headway with the Federal Government to change their activities on the three refuges in Missouri, Iowa and the Dakotas. And, I got the impression that the other States actually didn't enter into this thing, and all they did was object to any changes that were suggested to the Federal Government.

CHAIRMAN JONES: To explain it a little further, Larry, Dick Bishop is Chairman of the Blue and Snow Goose Committee, right? Isn't he from Iowa?

MR. LARRY SWALLOW: I think Marks (?) is now. He is on the Committee now.

MR. BUCKLEY: That is why I think that we need this. Times might have changed. If they haven't changed, well, that's it, unless we can do something to make a change. But if the Mississippi Flyway Council isn't ready for us right now, then maybe we should expend a little activity in possibly getting the Mississippi Flyway Council to be more conducive to change. Let's see what the situation is. We just can't assume forever that Louisiana doesn't -- the most important water fowl



State in the United States -- doesn't belong in the Council representing the water fowl people. We can't assume that that is always going to be against us.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Let's pursue the matter along the lines which Mr. Winfree suggested.

MR. HOBSON NORRIS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to hear from Dick Yancey on what he has to say about this.

MR. YANCEY: At the time that the Council was formed, each State would have one vote and the Council would meet twice annually, once in the Spring to discuss matters of general water fowl interest, and the second meeting would take place in early August, at which time the Council members would formulate recommendations on seasons and bag limits, and the setting of water fowl hunting seasons.

Back during the 50's, the general feeling of the Council was to give the hunters in the Flyway -- try to get for them a fair hunting season involving a reasonable number of hunting days, and a reasonable bag limit on ducks.

Then, beginning in about 1960, it appeared that many of the States in the Flyway felt that we were



overshooting our birds, and that perhaps we should drastically curtail hunting opportunity. At that time we began to polarize ourselves into two camps. There were the Northern States voting for very, very restricted hunting regulations, and the Southern States voting for very, what we felt were reasonable hunting regulations in view of water fowl populations.

At that time we were holding our own and in real good shape; the vote in the Council was usually running about eight to six in our favor.

All of a sudden Tennessee decided to go with the North in their voting, and we began to find the Council was recommending very, very restricted seasons and bag limits -- sometimes involving 20 or 25 days and maybe only two or three ducks in the bag. We felt at that point that they were becoming completely impractical, and those actions were doing a great deal more harm to the water fowl resources than would have by going ahead and ...

(INTERRUPTION IN LOUD-SPEAKING SYSTEM
MADE BALANCE OF THIS SENTENCE INAUDIBLE
TO REPORTER.)

...backbone of support for the water fowl



management programs, which are very expensive in the United States, and in Canada. Without this support we could expect these management efforts to finally dwindle away for a lack of financing.

Also, there are actually millions of acres of wetlands that are being conserved and maintained for water fowl use by your duck clubs, and water fowl interests up and down the continent. In exchange for the hunting opportunities that they get, when you make your seasons and bag limits so restrictive that your hunters lose interest in the maintenance of these wetland areas, then we felt that this would cause an actual decline in the duck numbers on the continent. We feel that duck numbers are controlled by the amount of wetland that you have, rather than by whether or not you adjust seasons and bag limits 10 or 15 days, or one or two ducks in the bag.

Then, all of a sudden, we were faced with a confrontation over in Houston, early in 1968, over the teal season, and the Flyway Council voted to cancel the teal season and, as all of you will recall, it was cancelled in 1968. And at the same time, the Council was voting for a 25-day duck season and two or three



ducks in the bag, which was totally unacceptable in this State. As a member of that Council we are more or less bound by the recommendations of that group.

At that point the Commission felt that by going directly to Washington and expressing its desires on seasons and bag limits, we would get a better shake for the Louisiana hunter than we would by going indirectly through the Mississippi Flyway Council and having our recommendations watered down to the extent that water fowl hunting would become completely impractical in this State. I think that the Commission's decision was right, and I think at this point that I see no reason at this time to necessarily change a course of action that we have chosen. We are all interested in a fair set of hunting regulations for Louisiana, and we want to take whatever course of action that we can to assure the fact that our sportsmen will get a reasonable season and bag limit for the State.

Now, some of us that have worked with this thing, and some of you are acquainted with all of the personalities and problems involved in it, and at this point we see no way whereby we can go back in that Council and have a great amount of influence, or, let's



say, a controlling influence on what those recommendations would be, because, as Clark has pointed out, it is a one vote/one state decision in the Council, and you have got a lot of States where duck hunting is not important, and they are voting against us. They are actually controlling the actions of that group.

So, at this point, unless there is something new in sight, I, personally, would not recommend to the Board that we would be in a better position to get a better season and bag limit for our sportsmen in the Council than we are right now. I agree with Buckley that we can have some influence on that group, but we do not have a controlling influence on that group at this time.

I would like to call your attention to the fact that for the last two hunting seasons, as a result of the efforts on the part of this Commission working outside of the Council, that we have had better seasons and better bag limits than was recommended by the Mississippi Flyway Council. Had we been in that Council we would have been bound by those recommendations which involved 25 days and two ducks in the bag, but we were outside, we were not bound, we were able to work



directly with the people in Washington, and the views of this Commission and the sportsmen of this State were felt up there, and we got better seasons and bag limits for the duck hunters of this State by being outside the Council than we would have gotten by being inside the Council.

Now, if anybody can produce any evidence to the contrary, then certainly we will want to reconsider this thing. Or, if anybody can produce any evidence to show that we will be in a better position to get a reasonable shake for the Louisiana duck hunters by being inside that Council, than we are in our present situation, then I am ready to change my recommendation, but at this point noone has come up with that.

One other thing that we might shed a little light on here, is that we feel that from the biological standpoint, Louisiana should be in the Central Flyway rather than the Mississippi Flyway, because the ducks that winter in Louisiana come out of the Northwest rather than the North. We submitted a letter to the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife from the Commission that requested that we be transferred to the Central Flyway, and we received a reply from Mr.



John Godchaux, Director of the Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, which stated that for administrative purposes we are in the Mississippi Flyway, and we shall remain in the Mississippi Flyway. He didn't leave a crack in the door anywhere. He said that we shall remain in the Mississippi Flyway.

So, following that letter then, as a result of Buckley's efforts and some of the Commission members' efforts, this meeting was set up in New Orleans with the Assistant Director of the Bureau and the Regional Director from Atlanta. As Mr. Winfree has already pointed out, and Mr. Jones pointed out, we submitted certain requests at that meeting, and they were not granted. As a matter of fact, we have never heard anything from the Bureau.

I remember one of the main requests that we made was that they appoint another Flyway representative to work with the States in the South end of the Mississippi Flyway, as they have with the Flyway representative who works out of Minneapolis and who works with the Northern States. We have never heard anything on that request.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Mr. Yancey, let me



interrupt you for just one moment.

While you are on that subject, go just a bit further and tell them that after lunch that day -- those people were going home and they came back that night, and I had dinner with them that night, and they said that they had almost agreed to what we had said that they would cut it into a Southern and a Northern Division ...

MR. YANCEY: That is right.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: ...and place a line in this Southern Division for us. I said that if they could do something like that that I felt sure that it would satisfy our people in the State of Louisiana. And, didn't these people then tell us that they would go back to Atlanta and that we would hear from them, I understood, in the next few weeks. Is that correct?

MR. YANCEY: That is right.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: And we haven't heard from them since, is that right?

MR. YANCEY: We have not heard anything, and they have not appointed a representative to work with the Southern States. This has posed a problem in the past because when we have gone to the Council meetings we have not only been up against the Northern States,



but we have been up against their Flyway representative. This man works out of Minneapolis. It was just too high a hill to climb.

One other aspect of this thing --

MR. H. C. WRIGHT: Let me ask you something before you go on.

MR. YANCEY: Yes.

MR. H. C. WRIGHT: Do you think if we would be back in the Flyway Council right now, going by their recommendations, that we would be having this September teal season?

MR. YANCEY: Well, let's take 1969 for an example. Mississippi Flyway Council recommended against a teal season for 1969, but we got a teal season in 1969 as a result of the direct push made by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. You all will recall that the entire Board went to Washington early in 1969 and met with the Bureau people and the Congressional Delegation. It was a result of that effort and later push that we were able to get that season.

Additionally, we got more days and better bag limit than that recommended by the Flyway Council in 1969. So, we do feel that we were effective last



year in getting a better deal for the duck hunters in the State.

But there is one other consideration of this whole deal at this time, and that is that Hugh Bateman and Larry Swallow are now working on and analyzing all the available information with regard to whether we should be in the Mississippi or Central Flyway. Working with us on that is Frank Bellerose, with the Illinois Natural History Survey, who has worked with Bateman in laying this study out, so that we can take a look at all of the available information, and if we can put together a strong case and get over into the Central Flyway, then at that point I would really see no objection in going into the Central Flyway Council, because the States in the Central Flyway more or less share our views with regard to allowing the hunters a reasonable season and bag limit. But that study is underway now. I am sure that it will not be completed in time to have any effect on our position this year, but it should be for next year.

Now, Bellerose, who is the best-known water fowl researcher in the United States, has told us that from a biological standpoint he feels that there is no



question but that Louisiana's ducks principally come down the Central Flyway and move into this State from a Northwesterly direction. I think this decision was made to keep us in the Mississippi Flyway, as was pointed out in the letter, it was strictly administrative, and I see no reason at this time why we should remain in this Flyway if, biologically, we should be in the Central Flyway.

If we do that and we get over into that Central Flyway, and if we could get into Council and we would be in with a group of States that looks at duck hunting just the way that we do.

MR. HOBSON NORRIS: Mr. Yancey, a question.

I should know, but how many States are in the Central Flyway?

MR. YANCEY: There are 14 in the Mississippi Flyway and I believe there are around 10 in the Central Flyway. Of course, that runs from Texas and New Mexico on up through the Dakotas and part of Montana.

MR. HOBSON NORRIS: Thank you.

MR. YANCEY: There are a lot of ramifications to this, and there is a lot of consideration that we need to give to it, and whatever we do, what we need to



do is carefully plan one step at a time and not make a mistake, because if you make one mistake in this business you might be three or four years before you can wrangle yourself out of it.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Well, Mr. Yancey, certainly Mr. Buckley has heard what you have said relative to the Flyway, and I think that is one more reason why it is so important for his group to get with our group to discuss and to talk about these matters. Certainly I am convinced that the Central Flyway is where we should be, and maybe Mr. Buckley's group, after discussing it again, we could all put our efforts forth into getting into that, and overriding Mr. Godchaux in some way.

MR. YANCEY: I would like to say this. If the duck hunters of Louisiana as a whole want us back into the Mississippi Flyway, then I would be the last to say let's not join it, but if we go back in there, let's let them have a full understanding that we do not think that we are going to get a better season, and bag limit, by being with them, than we are now, because the last two years wouldn't indicate that at all.

As a matter of fact, if we go back in, and if



we should have an understanding that when they vote for a 20-day duck season with one duck in the bag, then let's be bound by it. If that is what they want, then let's be bound by it. Let's don't come back after that Flyway Council meeting, and they voted for 20 days and one duck, and then go through the strain that we have in the years that we were in that Council of having to work on the outside.

Let's have a full understanding that we're in that Council and let's be bound by the vote of that Council. That is the reason we got out -- we didn't want to be bound by it.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Charlie, I have just one little comment and then we will move on to something else.

MR. YANCEY: Let me make one more comment, Mr. Chairman, as Charlie brought it up here.

As a result of these hunting regulations that we have had in Louisiana and which have been very, very restrictive, we think that we may, and possible we have developed a prohibition-type situation in the State with a general disregard for the seasons and bag limits on the part of the duck hunters. This is a real bad



situation. You have got a lot of resentment, general resentment on the part of these people against these very restrictive regulations. Now this is one of the things that we called attention to all during the early part of the 60's, that these two-duck bags and these 20 and 25-day duck seasons were going to finally result in the people just -- there is so much resentment on the part of the people that they are just going to start violating the law.

Now, the Federal Game Management Agency in the State feel that this has happened. They feel that they are encountering more resentment on the part of the duck hunters than they had ever had before and that there is a general disregard for the seasons and bag limits, and a lot of violations going on. Based on the cases that were made last year this would certainly be substantiated.

They, themselves, have gotten together and they have recommended a positive approach, and a new look at how seasons and bag limits with the taking of ducks ought to be carried out in this State in a manner that they feel would do away with the illegal kill of ducks, and would repair the damage that has been done.



to their image in this State on the part of the duck hunters. And, certainly, that image is at a low ebb as a result of these very restrictive hunting regulations.

They have submitted this, the United States Game Management Agency in this State have gotten together and they have submitted a recommendation to Washington, submitted through their Regional Office, in Atlanta, which would call for an increase in the daily bag limit on ducks to eight, with the bag-in-possession limit being the same; that shooting hours be limited to the morning hours only; and they require that each hunter have only his own birds. They are finding a lot of double-tripping and all of this going on in the marsh. They feel by limiting shooting hours to mornings only, and raising the daily bag limit and these other stipulations, that they could possibly eliminate the violations in the State and they could repair and restore the image that they had enjoyed at one time.

Also, on goose hunting, last year, as you know, we had a differential hunting season between blue and snow geese. They feel that the hunting season on hunting those three species of geese should run con-



currently.

Furthermore, they recommended continuation of the teal season for this year. They felt that this also has received wide public acceptance in the State and they have also recommended that the teal season be enlarged, actually, just to be a September hunt of ducks -- excluding wood ducks. In other words, we have some pintails, widgeon, and some other ducks that are moving through with the blue-wing, and we would like to see that September hunt enlarged to include these other species other than wood ducks.

But they are vitally and very much concerned with the general attitude that has developed in Louisiana, and the resentment that has shaped up in recent years over these very restrictive and impractical hunting regulations, and they have recommended a positive way of reversing this trend, and I think, certainly, they are to be very much commended for taking a hard look at this thing and coming up with some practical solutions to the problem.

This was touched on by Buckley, and I thought that we ought to elaborate on it briefly because I know that they may have put their necks on the chopping-



block with their recommendations. But, those people are just as conscientious as they can be. They have one of the toughest jobs in wildlife work in the State, and it was only, I am sure, after a great deal of discussion and forethought that they came up with these recommendations and they have submitted them to Washington.

CHAIRMAN JONES: I think that I will close by saying that this is a perfect example of what we were talking about when if we had the Flyway representative in Louisiana, he gets the feel of the Louisiana hunter. These Federal people are in Louisiana, these agents, and they get the feel of what the hunter is thinking and what they are doing. It is a perfect example of it.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: When you say that, Mr. Chairman, and, of course, that brings back up that same thing, they were willing to place -- as I understand, this man from Minnesota, Dick, has been down in Louisiana one time in six years?

MR. YANCEY: Well, we would see him about once every three years, and that would be about the extent of it.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: How could he expect to get



the feeling of the people of the State of Louisiana by not even coming down here? All we asked for was they place a man in the Southern area so he wouldn't have to travel so far.

Now, these two Game Agents have actually gone on record as actually having the feeling of the people of the State of Louisiana and, as you say, they have put their neck on the chopping-block because they are more or less taking the position of what this other man would take had he been here.

MR. YANCEY: Had he been here, we feel that he would have had a good understanding of the problems that we have here in the State, but most of the time in most of these Flyway Council meetings that we went to, we usually found him on the other side of the fence with the Northern States, and having no consideration or feeling for our recommendations whatsoever.

But these Federal men that are in Louisiana are nose to nose with the problems that we have here with managing this sport of duck hunting, know what the problems are, and I know that they must have burned a lot of midnight oil thinking about these recommendations before they sent them in.



That is what we need -- if we had people here who were setting regulations for Louisiana that knew what the problems were, we wouldn't be faced with all of this discussion every year. We would be getting a reasonable season and a reasonable bag limit for our duck hunters, and everything would be in good shape. But the people who are setting the hunting dates and the bag limits of this State are in Washington and they have no understanding or appreciation for what goes on here. They won't listen to us. I hope that they will listen to their own people who are working in the State, and who are nose to nose with this problem.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Thank you, Mr. Yancey.

We will move on. Is there any other business other than -- yes, sir. Will you come to the microphone, please?

MR. WILLIAM ROSS: My name is William Ross from Baton Rouge.

Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission. I was caught cold a few minutes ago when it was announced that Mr. Ted Ford was leaving the Commission, so that left me without anybody to fuss at. I want to congratulate him on his new move, and to wish him every



I want to bring to the attention of the Commission, and I am sure that most of you are familiar with it, was an incident that happened, I think it was the first week of this past month, below Delacroix Island, when, unfortunately, a group of Louisiana sportsmen found themselves in a very precarious position due to inclement weather, and so forth, and were denied the permission to spend overnight at one of the Wildlife and Fisheries camps.

Since that time it has been published in the newspaper as to the Commission's policy on situations of these kinds. I became interested in this because the same situation happened to me a couple of years ago. Certainly, I don't believe, nor has it ever been the intent of the Commission or its administrators, for this sort of incident to happen, to be publicized, and certainly not in the best interest of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

I won't go into detail because I do not think that it is necessary as to what happened.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: I would like for you to go into detail, Mr. Ross, because I am not aware of what you are talking about just yet.



MR. WILLIAM ROSS: Well, Mr. Winfree, I am sorry that you did not hear about this little incident.

This happened --

CHAIRMAN JONES: Let me ask you something. Is this something that you have personal knowledge of, or is it something that happened to somebody else?

MR. WILLIAM ROSS: I have personal knowledge of it.

CHAIRMAN JONES: O.K., go ahead.

MR. WILLIAM ROSS: I was not there, but I have personal knowledge of it.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Somebody told you about it?

MR. WILLIAM ROSS: Somebody told me about it.

CHAIRMAN JONES: O.K., go ahead.

MR. WILLIAM ROSS: It seems possible, very possible, that there could have been some misunderstanding as far as both parties were concerned.

However, after talking personally to another gentleman, Mr. Leroy, whom I happen to know personally, and who was there, that as far as weather conditions were concerned and the fact that this was in the nature of an emergency and these three people were denied the



use of the camp in an emergency situation. I only came to present this to the Commission for their attention.

As I said before, I do not believe it is the intent of the Commission to deny someone access to these camps in such cases as this. But, gentlemen, it doesn't seem to be too much -- has not been too much continuity in the way that these rules are applied. Furthermore, a question is -- regarding safety -- is, what is an emergency, and what constitutes an emergency, and what does not.

I think that it should be probably at the discretion of whoever is in charge of those camps. I think that he should weigh the situation out and, certainly, I do not want to infer to the Commission at any time that these camps are to be used by transient fishermen as hotels. This would be an impossible situation and I would be the last one to ever agree to any such thing as that.

However, for instance, two years ago, or possibly three years ago, unbeknown to us -- we had a brand-new boat, had never been in the water, and we went to move away from Last Landing, and we found ourselves something like one hour 45 minutes late in getting away



from the landing. As we approached Cayau (?) Lake, we found that the engine was running rough. It was running, but it was running rough. I also was denied permission to stay at the camp that night, and since we had reached a point of no return, it was a question of whether to chance the weather in the open Gulf. Needless to say we made our trip out there and no incidents happened on the way, and we made it.

But, gentlemen, I think that there should be -- that this Commission should establish themselves as to what is an emergency and what is not, because I am sure that the sportsmen of this State are all friends of this Commission, and these incidents need not and should not happen.

I bring this to the attention of the Commission and I think that it is the responsibility now of Mr. Hoffpauer, now that the Chief has left, and I don't know who his replacement will be, but as I understand that heretofore that has not been the policy.

But if those people who you have working for you at the Commission does not have some idea and to treat these sportsmen with respect and not act as bigots, as some of them do, I think that there are some changes



that need to be made. I request that this Commission take this under consideration.

MR. C. M. HOFFPAUER: Mr. Ross, let me say this, before I make any statements second-hand, such as you and John Moushbeck (?) have made in the paper, and up here in front of the other people -- I am going to call the other people in and talk to them about it. I haven't had a chance to talk to the people yet because we left for Wyoming before I could.

The Commission has a policy, as you know, for rescuing people and everything else. It really burns me up, though, to be confronted like this since I haven't had a chance to look into the situation entirely.

As you know, we have probably pulled in more people than the Red Cross and everybody else combined. At Marsh Island we are called on constantly to pick up people, and what-not.

Now, I am not sure exactly what happened at the camp that you are talking about -- I believe Claimeau (?) is the guy's name. The report I got was very different from the report that Claimeau (?) gave to the paper, so it remains to be seen, and we are going to look into it. Ted, do you have anything to say



on this, or not?

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Well, the reason that I asked what I did a while ago, I am not familiar yet with what we are talking about. I know that it is some incident that took place but I want to know what happened.

DR. FORD: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission. Over the years we have provided untold numbers and countless acts of assistance to any personnel with bona-fide emergencies, and what-not. To my knowledge, Mr. Ross's comments notwithstanding, we have never turned anyone away without providing some type of assistance or assuring that they had an opportunity to get in to a safe place. We have provided gasoline. Our personnel have assisted them with working out problems with their motors, and what-not -- even when they have had leaking boats. They have assisted them in making repairs.

Several years ago the Commission received some complaints, and it was not brought out at a public meeting, but I was instructed that no unauthorized personnel would be permitted to stay at the camps. Apparently there had been some, and it had apparently



been abused.

Now, if the facts are even partly correct in this latest incident -- the man was determined that he was going to spend the night at this particular camp because he had heard that this had been done. Our personnel have been instructed that they assist people who are in danger. According to our report from our personnel, and the matter is still under investigation, I would like to advise you, there was a second boat with this boat, and the man turned them loose saying that he was going to stay there. He was able to leave. He said that he was low on gas. Approximately it was an 80 to a 100 horsepower motor and which would normally have a capacity of about 36 gallons, and it only took about 11.2 gallons, I believe, to fill the tank, so it was hardly a matter of being too low on gas, but we were glad to do this.

On that same day we had assisted two Negro fishermen who were short on gas, and were apparently lost too. They were given assistance and direction and gas.

Prior to this we had some that apparently utilized people's name in the Commission and the higher



echelon, such as the Director and the Assistant Director's name, and said that they had authorized it, and in trying to gain control of this situation, in accordance with my instructions, I immediately contacted those people and found that they had not authorized anybody to use a particular camp, but which had been alleged.

So, we were being responsive to our instructions and to the guidelines. There are any number of instances in which we have provided assistance and we do plan to continue to provide assistance.

I think that this just about summarizes it. I would like to make a further statement that the matter is still under investigation, and when I received a copy of Mr. Claimeau's (?) letter, I immediately instructed my assistant Chief to make an investigation and a written report. It so happened that when the written report was prepared I was out of town. I believe that I was in Baton Rouge that day. So, we immediately had it transmitted to the Director. In reviewing the report, I found one or two things that I felt needed additional clarification and this is in the process of being obtained.

I might add that at that particular time we were in a major shell-planting effort; that the personnel



involved had been on duty for a number of days; they did have approval from my office to bring their family down on the week-end, and this has been done for a number of years, and is not a new practice, and so this was in accord with our guidelines. Apparently there was not space for this individual. The weather was such that he was not in any particular jeopardy. If he had not released his friends that he was apparently traveling with, I do not see how he could have possibly been in any jeopardy whatsoever.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Was there another boat there?

DR. FORD: Yes, sir, there were two boats. One of them was an inboard boat. The other was an outboard, and it had about an 80 to a 100 horsepower engine, according to my information. The man said for the other boat not to wait for him because he was going to spend the night at this place.

CHAIRMAN JONES: I am going to make a suggestion, and if the Board doesn't want to go along with it, they can say so.

It appears that you have additional information that you want to get from people in the area, and apparently there may be some conflict between you. I was



going to suggest to Mr. Ross that he have his friends, these people who are directly involved, to write out to the Commission, the Director, a letter putting forth exactly what they say happened, and let this get to Dr. Ford and let him get all of the information on it. We could sit here and air out what somebody said and what somebody else said. I don't believe that we have anybody here who was personally there anyway, so we are all just repeating something that somebody else said.

If it is with your approval I would like to handle it that way. I certainly -- I want to be understood -- that we don't want one thing covered up, but when it is brought out, let's bring it out with the people who were actually there so that we don't have any problem about what did happen.

MR. C. M. HOFFPAUER: We have both letters, both statements from both parties, and there are certain discrepancies and conflicts in them. I would like to get both parties in there and actually ask them what happened, and with witnesses, and I would like to reiterate again that it has always been a policy of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission -- in fact, it is an unwritten law all over the country that you know that you



lend people help in distress -- and I don't think, at least I hope not, that one of our Commission employees deviated from this unwritten code. If he has, he will be dealt with accordingly. That is all that I have to say about this.

MR. WILLIAM ROSS: Jerry, the point that I was really trying to make is that I think that there should be some guidelines or something for these people to go by as to what constitutes an emergency.

MR. C. M. HOFFPAUER: We have never really had this happen before that I know of.

MR. WILLIAM ROSS: This was before your tenure.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Mr. Ross, as I recall, you had a complaint about -- personally, a couple of years ago?

MR. WILLIAM ROSS: I am not talking about that.

CHAIRMAN JONES: No, but I'm just saying that you did, though.

MR. WILLIAM ROSS: Well, mine was dissolved.

CHAIRMAN JONES: O.K., but I recall your coming before the Commission.

But, I think the proper way to handle the



matter so that we get it first-hand, is to get it from the people involved and look into it. If you see that the Commission needs to re-examine its policies with an emergency, then let's do it, but let's do it after we get all of the facts. Is that all right with everyone?

DR. FORD: That sounds good, Mr. Chairman.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: I certainly recommend it, too.

CHAIRMAN JONES: O.K., fine.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Mr. Chairman, after this gentleman speaks I would like to request a five-minute recess or something. I have no objections to going on through lunch and personally I would prefer it that way, but after he gets through I would like to request a five-minute recess.

CHAIRMAN JONES: We are not going to talk about seasons and bag limits, are we?

MR. A. G. KIRKIKIS: No, sir.

CHAIRMAN JONES: Good.

MR. A. G. KIRKIKIS: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Hoffpauer, gentlemen of the Commission. My name is Ike Kirkikis, Webster Parish Police Jury, Chairman of the Wild Life and Fisheries Committee.



I spoke last year to you on the same subject and I am here requesting again on the same subject. Last year, if you can recall, we were discussing the possibility of better conservation in Webster Parish, and this is also done with law enforcement. Your law enforcement in Webster Parish has improved 100% since last year. I want to commend the people for they are doing a real good job.

But, we would like to have an additional Agent. Mr. Stanfield was retired and I believe that you have two up there now. I believe that I am correct, am I not, Mr. Neu, is that right?

MR. NEU: Yes, that is right. We replaced one in Caddo Parish just last week.

MR. A. G. KIRKIKIS: O.K.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: While you are saying law -- you mean Commission Agents?

MR. A. G. KIRKIKIS: Right. Game wardens.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: You said law enforcement, and I thought that that would be local.

MR. A. G. KIRKIKIS: We want to enforce the Game Laws of Webster Parish.

Now, Mr. Winfree, as you will recall, last



year you called me back to the stand and to the microphone and asked me if our Jury would pay half the salary. You remember that you called me back and asked me this, and I remember that I said no, sir, I am not authorized to do that.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: Now you are, I hope.

MR. A. G. KIRKIKIS: Right. Yes.

(LAUGHTER)

MR. A. G. KIRKIKIS: I just want to see if you are authorized or your fellow Commissioners are authorized to follow that same category, and go along with a similar agreement, let's put it that way.

MR. C. M. HOFFPAUER: Let me say this. I think it is nice for someone else to help pay the bill, but this would have to be a new classification set up by Civil Service. It would be a new precedent and Civil Service may not O.K. it. It would be something like the Seismic Agents, you know.

MR. A. G. KIRKIKIS: Well, let me explain, Mr. Hoffpauer, what the problem is that we have.

We have two Agents there covering a pretty good-sized area, and they are doing a real good job now. They really are. We have a neighboring Parish with two



large cities, and the people of those -- throughout the year, come down into Webster Parish and have a good time. We want them there and we welcome them there, but we do not want the outlaws there, which do a lot of night hunting, and we get a lot of response from that.

Two Agents are having a hard time trying to keep up with this.

MR. C. M. HOFFPAUER: We are talking about Senator Gilbert's Bill on Night Hunting. We hope to break them from sucking eggs on that, by a pretty good fine and a jail sentence. We are not sure what is going to happen on that, but that will deter a lot of night hunting. We actually wanted to confiscate everything the man had, but that was amended.

We do have 20 new Agent positions authorized, and I am not saying that Webster is going to get any because we have got to do a lot of figuring before -- in fact, I would like to put them all on bicycles running around the whole State, but, as you know, the situations change from month to month in different Parishes. We also do not like to hold our Agents down to a strictly Parish area, as they are supposed to work in the adjoining Parishes also, and this means that these men can be



moved into that area.

MR. A. G. KIRKIKIS: Well, the question was last year, and I think that you left it open and that is the reason that I brought it back, what Mr. Winfree said, about paying half.

I'll go further along a little bit. We were so pressed last year, the Jury was, and the people that we represent, that we had to hire two Parish Agents. Now, we have two Parish Agents in Webster Parish -- one for the North part of the Parish and one for the South part of the Parish. The proposition that I have come -- we are paying these people. We have them on a six-months trial basis. The six-months trial basis expired and the Jury went ahead and approved them on a permanent basis.

Now, if my mathematics don't fail me, two halves make a whole, and we would like one Agent. We are paying for two and we want one more. We are not too greedy, but we really do need one more Agent. This makes you pay for it entirely, as we are paying for two additional Agents that we have in Webster Parish now, and they are doing a cracker-jack job, too.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: What you are really asking is that another Agent be placed in Webster Parish?



MR. A. G. KIRKIKIS: Right.

MR. J. L. WINFREE: How many arrests were made up there?

MR. A. G. KIRKIKIS: They made quite a few. Let me give you an example of what one of our Agents done that's from the Northern part of the Parish.

They caught a man selling shiners coming from Arkansas. It would have been beneficial to Webster Parish if he would have arrested the man. He did not arrest him, he made him buy the State License. What is the cost of buying a State License, \$200.00? It didn't help us, but it did help the State. That is only one instance. They have made several arrests up there in fishing and in wildlife.

Now, we have a problem, of course, with our District Attorneys, and what have you. We get an arrest and we can't go no further a lot of times. I think that one of your Agents had that same problem up there. He made an arrest and we couldn't go any further with it.

But, that is not our problem, and we're going to try to solve that later -- it is not your problem, it is our problem.

What we are requesting is another Agent if it



is possible, and if you can't get it in Webster Parish, we will be glad to have him as a tri-Parish Agent. This would be Claiborne, Webster and Bossier, and that would be fine.

Are there any other questions? I appreciate your time very much.

CHAIRMAN JONES: We will pass that on to the Director.

MR. A. G. KIRKIKIS: O.K., thank you very much. Would you pass it on to Mr. Neu also?

(LAUGHTER)

CHAIRMAN JONES: I imagine that he will be down that way from the Director.

Is there anyone else who has anything to bring up other than season and bag limits at this time?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: Let's take a five-minute break and we will reconvene.

(A five-minute recess was held.)

AFTER THE RECESS:

CHAIRMAN JONES: Again I ask, is there anybody who has anything to say about anything other than seasons and bag limits?



(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIRMAN JONES: In that case we will adjourn
our Board Meeting at this time.

(The Board Meeting was adjourned
at 12:00 o'clock noon.)

